

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A pneumatic tire having a tread pattern including a plurality of blocks defined by a plurality of circumferential direction grooves extending substantially along a tire circumferential direction and a plurality of transverse direction grooves extending substantially along a tire transverse direction, wherein a sipe, which is substantially parallel to a contour line at a trailing edge of a ground-contact configuration, is formed in a region at a trailing edge of each of blocks at shoulder sides of said pneumatic tire among the plurality of blocks.

2. A pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein a sipe, which is substantially parallel to a contour line at a leading edge of the ground-contact configuration, is formed in a region at a leading edge of each of the blocks at the shoulder sides of said pneumatic tire.

3. A pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein said sipe is inclined with respect to a tire rotational axis.

4. A pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein said sipe is substantially parallel to a tangent line which is tangent to the contour line at the trailing edge of the ground-contact configuration.

5. A pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein said sipe is inclined with respect to a tire rotational axis.

6. A pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein said sipe is substantially parallel to a tangent line which is tangent to the contour line at the leading edge of the ground-contact configuration.

7. A pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein a sipe substantially parallel to the contour line at the trailing edge of the ground-contact configuration is formed in a trailing edge region of each of blocks adjacent to and at tire transverse direction inner sides of the blocks at the shoulder sides of said pneumatic tire.

8. A pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein a sipe substantially parallel to the contour line at the leading edge of the ground-contact configuration is formed in a leading edge region of each of blocks adjacent to and at tire transverse direction inner sides of the blocks at the shoulder sides of said pneumatic tire.

9. A pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein said sipe is formed in a tire transverse direction inner side of each of the blocks at the shoulder sides.

10. A pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein said sipe is formed in a tire transverse direction inner side of each of the blocks at the shoulder sides.

11. A pneumatic tire having a tread pattern including a plurality of blocks defined by a plurality of circumferential direction grooves extending substantially along a tire circumferential direction and a plurality of transverse direction grooves extending substantially along a tire transverse direction, wherein a sipe, which is inclined with respect to a tire rotational axis such that a tire transverse direction inner side of said sipe is disposed further toward a tire rotating direction side than a tire transverse direction outer side of said sipe, is formed in a trailing edge region of each of selected blocks of the plurality of blocks.

12. A pneumatic tire according to claim 11, wherein a sipe, which is inclined with respect to the tire rotational axis such that a tire transverse direction inner side of said sipe is disposed further toward a side opposite a tire rotating direction side than a tire transverse direction outer side of said sipe, is formed in a leading edge region of each of the selected blocks of the plurality of blocks.

13. A pneumatic tire according to claim 11, wherein said sipe is substantially parallel to a tangent line which is tangent to a contour line at a trailing edge of a ground-contact configuration.

14. A pneumatic tire according to claim 12, wherein said sipe is substantially parallel to a tangent line which is tangent to a contour line at a leading edge of a ground-contact configuration.

15. A pneumatic tire according to claim 11, wherein a sipe, which is inclined with respect to a tire rotational axis such that a tire transverse direction inner side of said sipe is disposed further toward a tire rotating direction side than a tire transverse direction outer side of said sipe, is formed in each of blocks at shoulder sides of said pneumatic tire and in each of second blocks which are adjacent to and at tire transverse direction inner sides of the blocks at the shoulder sides of said pneumatic tire.

16. A pneumatic tire according to claim 12, wherein a sipe, which is inclined with respect to a tire rotational axis such that a tire transverse direction inner side of said sipe is disposed further toward a side opposite a tire rotating direction side than a tire transverse direction outer side of said sipe, is formed in each of blocks at shoulder sides of said pneumatic tire and in each of second blocks which are adjacent to and at tire transverse

direction inner sides of the blocks at the shoulder sides of said pneumatic tire.

17. A pneumatic tire having a tread pattern including a plurality of blocks defined by a plurality of circumferential direction grooves extending substantially along a tire circumferential direction and a plurality of transverse direction grooves extending substantially along a tire transverse direction, wherein

a sipe, which is inclined with respect to a tire rotational axis such that a tire transverse direction inner side of said sipe is disposed further toward a tire rotating direction side than a tire transverse direction outer side of said sipe and which is substantially parallel to a contour line at a trailing edge of a ground-contact configuration, is formed in a trailing edge region of each of selected blocks of the plurality of blocks; and

a sipe, which is inclined with respect to the tire rotational axis such that a tire transverse direction inner side of said sipe is disposed further toward a side opposite a tire rotating direction side than a tire transverse direction outer side of said sipe and which is substantially parallel to a contour line at a leading edge of the ground-contact configuration, is formed in a leading edge region of each of the selected blocks of the plurality of blocks.